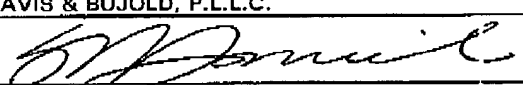
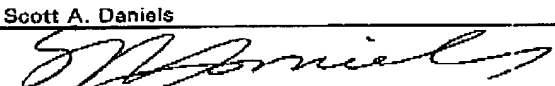


PTO/SB/21 (12-97)

Approved for use through 8/30/00. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	10/612,684	<b>RECEIVED</b> <b>CENTRAL FAX CENTER</b> <b>OCT 13 2004</b>
	Filing Date	July 2, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Anders T. RAGNARSSON	
	Group Art Unit	3749	
	Examiner Name	Jiping LU	Fax: (703) 872-9302
Total No. of Pages in this Submission: 7	Attorney Docket Number	RAGAND P06AUS	
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Part/s Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition <input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):	
REMARKS			
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm or Individual Name	Scott A. Daniels DAVIS & BUJOLD, P.L.L.C.		Reg. No. 42,462 CUSTOMER NO. 020210
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO on <u>October 13, 2004</u>			
Type or printed name	Scott A. Daniels		
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	Date: October 13, 2004		

10/13/04

PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Anders T. RAGNARSSON  
Serial no. : 10/612,684  
Filed : July 2, 2003  
For : SLUDGE DRYER  
Group Art Unit : 3749  
Examiner : Jiping LU  
Docket : RAGAND P06AUS

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The Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office  
P. O. Box 1450  
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## RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This response is being filed in reply to the office action mailed July 13, 2004. In that action, the Examiner has required restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 between the following groups of claims:

- I. Claims 1-19 are drawn to a material drying apparatus, classified in class 34, subclass 92;
- II. Claim 20 is drawn to a method of drying sludge, classified in class 34, subclass 282.

The Applicant provisionally elects the invention disclosed in Group I (claims 1-19) and it is requested that, without further action thereon, claim 20 be retained in this application pending disposition of this case and for possible filing of a divisional application(s).

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 5, 7, 8 and 20, amend claims 1, 6, 9, and 18, and add new claim 21 as follows. The claim additions are shown by underlining and/or the claim deletions are shown by strikeout. Please enter the amended claims into the record of this case.